



State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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August 7, 2001

Mr. Kerry Nielsen
Corporation of the Presiding Bishopric
Temple Construction Department
Joseph Smith Memorial Building – Eighth Floor
15 East North Temple Street
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111-5620

Re: Request to Close Small Mine Permit and File, Corporation of the Presiding Bishopric, Little Cottonwood Granite Quarry, S/035/017, Salt Lake County, Utah

Dear Mr. Nielsen:

On July 3, 2001, the Division received your request to close the permit and file for the Little Cottonwood Granite Quarry small mine project. On July 18, 2001, I visited the site along with Greg Baptist and Darlene Batatian from Salt Lake County and Division biologists, Lynn Kunzler and Paul Baker.

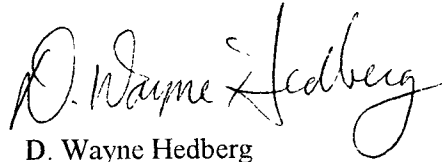
The site does not meet the revegetation requirements for a small mining operation; therefore, the Division cannot close the permit and file, as requested. Rule R647-3-109.13.11 requires that the revegetation achieve 70% of the premining vegetation ground cover. Weeds are not included in the cover measurements. If the premining vegetative ground cover of the disturbed area is not known, then the ground cover of an adjacent undisturbed area that is representative of the premining conditions will be used as a standard. Also, the vegetation must survive three growing seasons following the last seeding, fertilization or irrigation. We estimate vegetation cover in areas surrounding the site is at approximately 50%. To meet the 70% success standard, at least 35% cover must be achieved on the reclaimed site. There is currently less than 10% cover from non-weedy species, so the site does not meet the revegetation requirement. In addition, it has been less than one year since the tree plantings were done and the area was seeded, so the vegetation has not survived the minimum three growing seasons.

Nearly all of the desirable vegetation observed during our inspection was from transplants with a few volunteer plants. Very few plants appeared to have been seeded. Much of the site is conducive to seeding, and we recommend you seed all areas where there is soil. A recommended seed mix composed of adapted native species was hand delivered to you on July 30, 2001. To obtain optimal benefit from seeding, late fall, before the first freeze, is the preferred time to seed. Salt Lake County has requirements for establishing trees of a certain size and number on this site. The County requirements are in addition to DOGM revegetation requirements.

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Because the file cannot be closed at this time, the annual permit fee is due and payable. According to Rule 647-3-101.7.13.12, the operator must submit the fee payment within 30 days from the date of the inspection. Another billing statement for the required permit fee is enclosed. The fee must be submitted by August 18th. If you have any questions about the regulatory requirements for this site, please call me at 538-5286. Thank you for your cooperation and prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "D. Wayne Hedberg". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

D. Wayne Hedberg
Permit Supervisor
Minerals Regulatory Program

jb
Enclosure. Billing Statement
cc Greg Baptist, Salt Lake County
Mary Ann Wright, DOGM
S35-17-ltr doc